

THE GATEWAY

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Swann firing part of an ominous trend, says med talk

Firing of doctor for Kyoto remarks raises issues of public concern versus private interests

KRIS MEEN
News Writer

The firing of Dr David Swann occurs at a time when health experts are finding it increasingly dangerous to speak out about issues of public health, said U of A bioethicist Laura Shanner.

Shanner was speaking last Wednesday at a medical colloquium organized in response to the firing, held by the Department of Public Health Science and the John Dossiter Health Ethics Centre, both of the U of A.

Earlier this month, Swann was fired from his position as Medical Officer of Health for the Palliser region for speaking out in favour of the Kyoto Accord, after apparent interference from Alberta Environment Minister Lorne Taylor. Swann subsequently refused an offer to be re-hired. The Palliser region encompasses Medicine Hat and the surrounding rural area.

"Academic freedom in Canada is being challenged and subverted to funding."

LAURA SHANNER, BIOETHICIST,
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCE

Shanner depicted the firing as part of an ominous trend, citing several other recent instances of health professionals losing their jobs after sounding the public health alarm.

In one case, a doctor was fired from the University of Toronto after publishing research challenging the effectiveness of Prozac.

The fact that the maker of Prozac was a major U of T donor was not coincidental, said Shanner.

In another case, a bioethicist was fired from a hospital after calling child protection on an individual who turned out to be a major donor to that hospital.

"Academic freedom in Canada is being challenged and subverted to funding," she said, as is "protection of the vulnerable."

PLEASE SEE SWANN • PAGE 2



LEANNE BROWN

FIGHTING BACK Protestors urged Canada to oppose potential US attacks on Iraq in a Saturday rally put on by the U of A Coalition Against War and Racism.

SU warns free trade could hurt post-secondary education

Events week draws attention to free trade impacts

JHENIFER PABILLANO
News Editor

With a mural, activist workshops, and a Halloween "Carnival of Resistance" this week, the Students' Union is trying to raise awareness about how international trade agreements may threaten Canadian post-secondary education.

Trade agreements in the Free Trade Area of Americas (FTAA), a free-trade zone encompassing all countries in North and South America except Cuba, are looking to include services like health care and education in their mandate, which could possibly destroy the Canadian system of public post-secondary education. Inclusion of these services is modelled on the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), a free-trade agreement on services that is used by the WTO.

"These agreements are about liberalizing trade, to make a level playing field for all the players, which

includes government players and private for-profit corporation players," said Hudema.

"[Right now] if you look at it, the playing field is very unfair: private corporations don't get any public funding but public institutions do. So companies coming here and setting up shop would see that as an unfair area of trade. They would take that to a tribunal, the same court system as the WTO, and the tribunal would not look at the ethics of it, but just look in terms of trade."

Three possible outcomes could emerge, said Hudema. Private institutions would receive the same funding as public institutions, public institutions would lose their public funding, or the situation would remain the same. But if the system stays as it is, the FTAA could levy a fine and place embargoes on Canada until the system was changed.

PLEASE SEE FREE TRADE • PAGE 2

Degree-granting power for colleges may create two-tier education system

CHRIS BOUTET
Associate News Editor

Faced with concerns of booming undergraduate enrolment and limited space at the University of Alberta, the province is looking into granting degree completion status to two of Alberta's largest colleges. But students are worried this is the first step towards a two-tiered education system.

Learning Minister Lyle Oberg and the provincial government will be facilitating talks over the next few months between the U of A, Grant MacEwan College and Mount Royal College in Calgary. If all goes well, the two colleges will be given the ability to offer full bachelor's degrees for undergraduate programs, which, coupled with raising tuition rates and minimum entry averages expected at the U of A, should disperse the prospective undergrad population more evenly among the three schools.

University Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Doug Owram feels the collaboration will ease the pressure increasing enrolment puts on its faculty and facilities.

"We've had an enrolment surge over the last two years, and capacity is becoming a real issue," said Owram. "So the natural question is where do you go next?"

"Basically, the University is faced with three options: keep building into a larger institution, shut people out, or create new institutions to handle the extra capacity."

The University hopes that with more undergraduates going elsewhere for their bachelor's degree, more U of A resources could be allocated to the post-graduate studies and research, which in turn will work towards establishing the U of A as an "elite institution," as Owram calls it.

Although all three schools are optimistic that they stand to benefit from the arrangement, students' unions from the three institutions are express-

ing concerns that the move is just the first step towards the creation of a two-tiered education system in Alberta.

Mike Hudema, U of A Students' Union President, described the University's use of the word "elite" as fitting.

"It's the most apt word for the University's policies that I can think of. This university has long sought to be not only academically elite, but also financially elite as well."

"If the U of A is considered more prestigious because a degree here costs more than Grant MacEwan, you're basically buying quality. If you can pay for it, you can get a more prestigious degree."

MIKE HUDEMA, SU PRESIDENT

Hudema worries the U of A's increasing fees and entry averages will deter all but those students interested in the professional faculties from coming to the University, and fears Mount Royal and Grant MacEwan will become viewed as little more than liberal arts colleges under this new structure. "With a two-tiered education system, it's dangerous to create a system in which one degree is better than the other just because it's more expensive," he said.

"If the U of A is considered more prestigious because a degree here costs more than Grant MacEwan, you're basically buying quality," he said. "If you can pay for it, you can get a more prestigious degree."

Hudema's concern with the University's vision of an elite status is echoed by other student associations.

PLEASE SEE DEGREE-GRANTING • PAGE 2

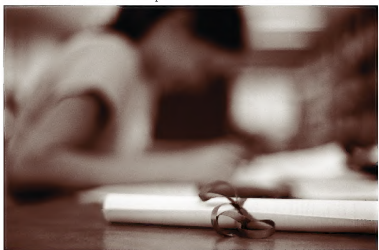


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: JON YU

TWO-TIER FEARS Will college degree-granting create two-tier education?



5 Bad breath, scabies, foot odour and greasy hair are all social impediments, but has the campus of the 21st century forgotten about the bad news that is braces? Trevor Miller reminds us.

Inside
News 1-3
Opinion 4-6
Sports 7-8
A&E 9-11
Features 12-13
Classifieds 14
Comics 15

Outside

Tuesday Mainly sunny, bake cookies at Grandma's; High -5, Low -13
Wednesday Sunny, hide cookies in dark basement; High -5, Low -17
Thursday Sunny, eat cookies in class; High 1, Low -8
Friday Sunny, toss cookies on Mom; High 1, Low -8
Source: Environment Canada



From the archives

A motion was passed by an "overwhelming majority" of Students' Union Council members to ban smoking in council chambers. This motion was passed despite the fact that over half of council were known smokers. It was additionally decided that any councilors who broke the ban would literally be picked up and thrown out of chambers. One problem the Gateway found, however, was that the average smoking councillor far outweighed the average non-smoking councillor, thus making the "throwing out" of dissenters physically impossible.

1975



12 Pink fishnet stockings, sticky-fingered children, decapitated chickens, and so much more is all awaiting you in today's special pre-Halloween pure evil feature!

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Apple Macintosh computers, Hewlett-Packard Scanjet 3x and Linux Red Hat 6.0. The Gateway is created using Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and Adobe InDesign. The Gateway is created using Adobe Photoshop to create PDF files which are then directed to plates to be printed on the printing press. It is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of Helvetica, Times, and Arial.

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Swann comments were justified, says bioethicist

SWANN • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The problem of when it is safe to speak is added to the already complex issue of when health professionals are ethically justified in speaking, said Shanner.

Often the duties involved in one's job description conflict with personal commitments and beliefs, and some political pundits have accused Swann of abusing his position as Medical Officer of Health to push his personal views on environmental protection, she said.

Shanner defended Swann on this point, explaining that Swann hadn't been speaking in his capacity as Medical Officer of Health when he made the comments.

She added that this was a public misconception that may have been reinforced by questionable wording in media reports. Swann spoke out as president of the Society of Alberta Medical Officers of Health on 27 September, saying the government should stop its opposition to Kyoto as the accord would reduce health problems related directly and indirectly to greenhouse gas emissions.

After being fired by the Palliser Health Region, he continued to endorse the pro-Kyoto statements he had made.

In a brief discussion following Shanner's presentation, the audience split on whether Swann's pro-Kyoto comments were justified.

One audience member thought



LEANNE BROWN

SAFE TO SPEAK? Bioethicist Laura Shanner discusses the Swann firing.

Swann's commentary amounted to a kind of ambush. "To be effective in affecting policy, it might not be a good idea to surprise your employer," he said.

Another member of the audience replied, wondering how Swann could

have avoided such a surprise.

"I think the minister and the health region would have been hard pressed to give permission [to Swann to publicly air his opinion on Kyoto]. I have a hard time figuring out how that would have been resolved."

More degrees means more options, says Owrarn

DEGREE GRANTING • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jennifer Wietzel, Vice-President (External) of the Mount Royal Students' Association, wrote an article in the Mount Royal SU monthly newsletter *Association Matters* that expressed anger to the same concerns. "The U of A wants to grant degrees there, thereby making a Mount Royal degree second-class," she wrote.

"That plan includes raising admissions standards at the University to create a U-style Ivy League school. The Students' Association would not like to see a system where opportunities for students are compromised by

an elite system," she continued. But Owrarn doesn't see it that way; he sees the system as offering students more opportunity in education. "As Alberta gets bigger, we need to provide people with more education options," he said. "It's not a question of quality—some students like big classes, some like small—we're just offering different models for different people."

Currently, Grant MacEwan College offers up to two years of a bachelor's degree in their university transfer program. Mount Royal College already offers bachelor's degrees in Arts and Nursing with Athabasca University.

near Tony. Officers arrived to find him throwing up and incoherent. He spent several hours in the cells at Campus Security HQ before being released. He was a student.

• On 26 October at about 1:30pm, officers responded to a call about a male knocking on stairwell doors in HUB mall. Officers arrived to find the male throwing up in the stairwell. A HUB Residence Life Assistant attended the area and allowed the male access to his room.

• On 26 October at about 3pm, officers received a call about a man stumbling through Lister Hall. The man didn't know where he was or where he lived, but was not a resident of the building. He was taken back to Campus Security HQ and was eventually taken to the hospital for treatment.

• At 10pm 27 October, Campus Security received a call about an extremely intoxicated and incoherent male at Lister Hall. He was transported to the U of A emergency room by officers.

• At about 3am on 27 October, officers came about a male passed out on the side of the road at University Avenue and 114 Street. He was brought back to the cells to sober up. He was a student.

NICE CAR

On 19 October at about 2pm, a female

"It's not a question of quality—some students like big classes, some like small—we're just offering different models for different people."

DOUG OWRARN, UNIVERSITY PROVOST
AND VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

driving down 110 Street and 83 Avenue noticed a male masturbating towards her vehicle. As she didn't contact Campus Security until two days later, the suspect was not located. He is described as a Caucasian male with black sweatpants, a black t-shirt and a brown zip-up sweater.

HOSPITAL ESCAPEE TAKEN HOME

On 23 October at 2pm, a student contacted Campus Security to advise them of a 20-year-old woman walking slowly in the IRT station. She was wearing a hospital bracelet and Hospital Security had reported her missing. Constables arrived and, as he was causing a disturbance, arrested her and transported her back to the hospital.

WANTED MAN LOCATED IN HUB

On 23 October at 2:15pm, an officer in the HUB community patrol office observed a male soliciting in the mall. Constables arrived and discovered the suspect had previously been trespassing and had an outstanding warrant from the RCMP. He was arrested and handed over to Edmonton Police.

CORBETT THIEF COLLARED

On 23 October at about 11pm, Campus Security received an alarm activation in a classroom in Corbett Hall. Constables attended and found a lone male sitting in the classroom with his books out. He claimed to be a student. Officers checked the area and found

SU calls on Canada to protect education

FREE TRADE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The SU events are taking place this week because 31 October marks the start of the next round of FTAA free trade negotiations in Quito, Ecuador. Groups all over North and South America will be demonstrating against the FTAA, including the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), a national student lobby group that is providing the SU with postcards and posters.

"We're not official partners... but we're trying as much as possible to unite the student movement and provide one voice for the Canadian government to hear," said Hudema.

Hudema said that though the Canadian government has said education would not be part of the agreement, no firm commitment has been heard on the issue and no agreement has been made to ensure education will remain untouched by trade restrictions.

The SU events this week include a Halloween "Carnival of Resistance" where students will don costumes and hand out information materials in SUD, movie viewings about political resistance, and lectures about the details of the FTAA/GATS agreements.

SUEVENTS LIST

• 29 October: *View From the Summit Road to Chiapas*, a film about the Quebec FTAA meetings
Movie Night @ Dewey's 7pm

• 31 October: *Direct Action: memoirs of an Urban Guerrilla*
@ ETLIC 11:00, 7pm - Ann Hansen, who spent seven years in prison for her political activism, speaks out!

• 31 October: *Carnival of Resistance*
Join your Students' Union for a variety of zany activities in SUD. Don't forget to wear your costume!

nothing out of the ordinary.

The department's alarm technician was in the area by coincidence and, upon inspecting the room, discovered a battery cover and some batteries removed from one of the alarms in the room. The alleged student was still studying and the officer noticed what appeared to be the butt end of both coppers sticking out of his bag.

A search of his backpack and person revealed some items, including the cover. The former student was charged with possession of break-in tools and theft under \$500.

SUSPICIOUS MALE IN SUB

At 6pm on October 25, a female in SUB was approached by a suspicious male who began asking questions that made her feel suspicious as to his motives. She left the area, but discovered he was following her towards CAB. She contacted Campus Security, but the suspect had left the area. He wore a red jacket, was about 20 years old with blue jeans, glasses, and a slim 5'10" build. He was Caucasian.

TELLS HOWDUNIT

At 6:30pm on 28 October, staff of the Telus Centre arrived to find a room on the main floor broken into and about \$500 worth of CDs stolen. The suspects had also attempted to access the bar, but had failed. The case is under investigation.



PATRICK FINLAY

NATION BOOSTER Author Satya Das says Canada needs to lead the international community by example.

Canada is valuable model for peace, says author

JHENIFER PABILANO
News Editor

For the title of his new book about Canadian international leadership, Edmonton author Satya Das chose a phrase that isn't so modestly Canadian: *The Best Country: Why Canada Will Lead the Future*.

"It's very un-Canadian to say that we will lead," said Das.

"But if I wasn't confident [in our leadership], I would die of despair. I really have lived in a lot of places in the world and I've seen utterly horrible things. If we can't protect Canada to the world and say 'Here is a different way, here is the path of non-violence, here is the path of the culture of peace,' then we are lost."

As part of the Faculté Saint-Jean's Canadian Studies Café bilingual discussion series, Das will be on hand on Wednesday to explore his views in a casual dialogue with a small audience in a café near the Faculté.

A noted former journalist with the *Edmonton Journal*, Das draws on his formidable experience in Canadian and international issues to shape his arguments.

The Best Country is an ambitious book with an optimistic tone, where Das argues Canada can provide a crucial example for the hatred and violence seen internationally. The experience of Canada, says Das, shows that diversity can exist peacefully, governance can be effective and cooperative, and peace can come out of a history of intolerance.

"[Canada's example] is such an anti-

dote to the exclusion and the hatred and the violence everywhere. That's the obligation of our leadership: not to say your country must become like us too, but look what we've done. Is there anything you can draw from our experience?"

"Maybe the best protection of Canada is to share more of ourselves with the world rather than wait with dismay at the inevitable dominance of American culture."

SATYA DAS, AUTHOR

Western Canada, says Das, provides a key part of the model. Not even 100 years old, the provinces and cities of Western Canada are examples of strong and peaceful systems built on foundations of diversity, said Das. Eastern Canada is less applicable as it retains a foundation rooted in other cultures, such as French or Anglo-Scottish history, says Das.

"The only distinctive Canadian experience [in the West] is the experience of cultural diversity; of lots of different people coming together to live. In the first few decades of the Western Canadian experience, it was bitter and violent and awful and racist. And the last three or four decades, it has significantly changed," said Das.

Arguing that Canadian governance is exemplary because of its consensus and cooperation, Das isn't fazed by the federal and provincial struggles over the Kyoto accord.

"I think Kyoto is all about consensus. Kyoto is proof that Canada works," said Das.

"What's happened in the debate in the last few days? They got tired of shouting, now they're sitting down with each other to look for solutions. ... Full credit to Klein and Chretien for sitting down and talking about this, because that's the Canadian way."

And despite rumblings that Canada may be succumbing to interests that erode the characteristics that Das' book prides, he isn't worried that they will succeed.

"I'm not a pessimist that way," said Das.

"I know people like my friend Mel Hurtig who think we're losing everything to the Americans, and I respect his view because I can't deny the validity of his arguments. But what I would say is, what are we going to do to fight that? ... Maybe the best protection of Canada is to share more of ourselves with the world rather than wait with dismay at the inevitable dominance of American culture."

The Canadian Studies Café will be held at the Cité francophone, 8627 rue Marie-Anne-Gaboury (91 Street) from 7-9pm on 27 October.

The event is sponsored by the Faculté Saint-Jean's Canadian Studies Centre. The Faculté has been running its Canadian Studies program for over 20 years.

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STREETERS

Author Satya Das believes Canada can be a good example for peaceful multicultural systems and effective governance

Do you think Canada is a prime model for other countries?



Muhammad
Azmi
Arts I



Kathryn Martell
Grad Studies



Sam Burke
Arts IV

I think Canada is something the rest of the world should be trying to emulate, because not many countries have a multicultural society like Canada. It's okay for immigrants to come over and still live peacefully instead of having racial discrimination and stuff like that. I'll use the States as an example: multiculturalism isn't working too well there as compared to Canada. This is my first year in Canada, I was in England before this. The multiculturalism here is much better than in the UK, so I have no criticisms.

I don't necessarily want to say that it's a good model, because I think there are probably a lot of other countries with a better one. It's not that Canada is overrated or anything. I just think the international perception of our programs is probably different than the internal perceptions. I think there's a disparity between Canada's foreign policies and its internal policies, with respect to how we treat multiculturalism and how we treat people of other nations.

I think you can take aspects of the multiculturalism that we have in Canada and use them as a model, but we're far from perfect. But it's something that our counterparts to the south should look at and use as a building block, such as our not going to war with other countries for stupid reasons. There's always room for improvement, but I do think that compared to a lot of other countries, we're definitely doing something good.

Compiled and photographed by Tyson Durst and James Elford

Genetic patents constrain human potential

Last week, the BC government forbade its health care workers from using a particularly effective breast cancer test on its patients, one that tests the susceptibility a patient has to developing that deadly disease. What would possess the BC government to do such a thing? An American company, one that has patented not only the test, but also the sequence of genes the test examines to determine the patient's susceptibility to breast cancer.

This sort of thing is happening all over the world: since the successful mapping of the human genome, biotech companies are going gene-patent crazy.

According to an article in *Signals* magazine, the number of patent applications for gene sequences runs into the millions, with thousands of patents already awarded. Some companies even patent sequences of DNA whose importance is unknown. They just throw down the patent card hoping that further research will determine that the sequence is extremely important, which would make their haphazard patenting strategy worth it.

Now, patents have been around for centuries. They were created to allow inventors protection from theft of intellectual property. But how can one patent DNA if it wasn't invented by anyone?

Well, people can because DNA patents fall under the category of "compositions of matter," one of five statutory categories under which a patentable product must fall. Although sequences of DNA were discovered, not invented, they're still patentable, thanks to a 1980 Supreme Court case in which genetically modified bacteria was patented, at a time when few thought of the ramifications of the decision.

Because of this precedent and the lack of oversight on the Patent Office's part, biotech companies patent gene sequences and the applicable tests that go with them, precluding anyone else from legally using applicable tests without paying sensational royalties.

Because of this precedent and the lack of oversight on the Patent Office's part, biotech companies patent gene sequences and the applicable tests that go with them, precluding anyone else from legally using applicable tests without paying sensational royalties.

The virtues of a united humanity are often touted as something for which all citizens should strive. Television and film show us utopian futures where a united humanity has eliminated crime, hunger and poverty.

Yet we're still withholding what many Canadians remain Canadians for: the right to be healthy. As long as companies are allowed to patent gene sequences and tests, robbing many of a fighting chance against genetically linked diseases, we can never be a strong and united humanity.

We must ensure that we have a health care system that doesn't pander to big business. Part of that means that patents on gene sequences should be dissolved.

Immediately, BC needs to be able to conduct its breast cancer tests. The results of such a change might not be immediately apparent, but try thinking about the big picture, and suddenly the future is less harrowing.

ADAM ROZENHART
Entertainment Editor

Expect flurries

I'm sure that the all of you are aghast at yet another editorial on the weather, but it seems that we're growing increasingly out of touch, reader, and the weather is all we have in common these days.

But before you take offense, I've backed up my quibble with evidence, found just a little to the right.

Take a look. What do you see? Letters. Yes, but note where they're coming from. Note that "Ottawa, Ontario" and "Swift Current, Saskatchewan" aren't Arts programs. That's fine—it's not like Tom Trotter or Mr Bev Currie are unappreciated. It's just, well, they're not us. And sometimes, we miss you, letter-writers, we really do.

RAYMOND BEISINGER
Managing Editor



DO I LOOK
LIKE A DEMOCRAT?

NEGOTIATE?
WITH THE
CHECHENS?

R. BEISINGER

LETTERS

God won't strike Easton down for his errors

In a recent *Gateway* opinion article ("Catholicism's dignity of human life" should be expanded, or at least discussed," 24 October), Anthony Easton expressed reservations concerning a certain Catholic liturgical practice: intercessory prayer. I feel the crux of Easton's apprehensions is not so much liturgical practice, but the issue of the dignity of human life and the matter of differing opinion within a faith community.

The dignity of human life has been vigorously defended by Catholics and other Christians for several reasons. Firstly, human beings are created in the image and likeness of God. Think about it, you and I are sacred, and thus worthy of life at all times, because we are a reflection of God.

The human condition is further dignified through the incarnation—God taking on human form in Jesus and living among us—and through the Exaltation, being Jesus ascending to heaven in a glorified body. Human dignity is thus radically altered through God's action in salvation history.

That said, I have no answers for the mystery of suffering other than the comfort in looking to Christ crucified and saying, "Yeah, this isn't easy, help us Lord."

As for discourse outside of the liturgy, Anthony, you know the saying: "Where two or three are gathered in my name..."

GERARD McLARNEY
BED 2002

Library Help Chat flabbergasting, amazing

I wasn't sure whether to keep this a "secret" so it doesn't become overused (and thus, not as good), or to give it some publicity so it doesn't ever get axed. I decided that the latter was a better option since

most people will probably ignore this. What is it? That the Library Help Chat service is amazing—I used it for the first time this week and was flabbergasted by how incredibly helpful the electronic librarian was.

I was looking up some book reviews and inquiring as to the best databases to use. Not only did the librarian help me in that regard, but he or she even searched some of the databases for me and directed me to some external links.

I don't know if I was lucky and got an especially good librarian that had some free time, but I am incredibly grateful for the librarian's help. So, kudos to the library for this excellent service.

JORDAN BIRENBAUM
BA 2002

Ballistics Registry would be awesome!

Should there be a ballistics registry for every gun? Critics make four arguments against storing a sample bullet fired by every gun and storing the groove pattern in a computer database.

First, they say it would not cover existing guns. Well, that could be fixed by requiring all sales and gun registration renewals to supply a current sample, for example, by firing into the sand at your local police station. Gradually, most legal guns would be covered.

Second, they say the pattern on the bullet is changed by time and by deliberate alteration. Many firings will wear the groove pattern, but many guns are not fired that much. Deliberate alterations will often make the gun less accurate, perhaps sparing lives.

Perhaps more important, even if the pattern changes, many guns can still be ruled out as possible sources for a bullet, helping people prove they're innocent, just as DNA has freed innocent people even when the guilty party hasn't contributed a sample.

Third, they say a registry would not help when guns are stolen. No

doubt stolen guns are more likely to be used in crime than legal guns, but legal guns are used to commit crimes, and in accidents too.

Many gun crimes are crimes of passion (or stupidity), not calculation. Even the records of guns that were stolen can be useful. Perhaps the thief was caught, but not the gun. The thief can be questioned further about what happened to it, and additional penalties could be attached to stealing a gun later used in a crime. If the gun was stolen far away, that may provide clues to the current criminal.

Fourth, they say it is like fingerprinting ordinary people rather than criminals. It is not. The gun is fingerprinted, not the owner. Does the government know the VIN of your car or truck? Of course they do. Why not your gun too?

Yes, a Ballistics Registry will cost money. So do guns. A Registry may aid the solution of many future crimes, speeding justice both for the guilty, and the innocent.

TOM TROTTER
Ottawa, Ontario

'Nicaragua Day in Canada' would be great

Senator Jerry Graftstein wants an "American Day in Canada" to remember those who perished in the 11 September, 2001 tragedy. I have a better idea: let's have a Nicaragua Day in Canada. The US sponsored war of terror on Nicaragua killed about 35,000 innocent civilians, ten times the number that died on 11 September.

Let's keep things in perspective.

(MR) BEV CURRIE
Swift Current, Saskatchewan

Bush is reacting to radical Islamic terrorists.

When trying to deceive someone, it is better to tell half-truths than complete lies.

When President Bush claims that

he wishes war with Iraq because of Saddam's weapons of mass destruction, he is telling some of the truth. However, we all know that if the events of 11 September, 2001, had not happened, Mr Bush would not be going after Saddam. Therefore, the causation for his apparent pugnacity must lie with radical Islamic terrorists operating out of the Middle East.

The overthrow of the Iraqi government and its replacement with a democracy will cause instability in the region, instability and influence from democratic Iraq will likely lead to the collapse of the tenuous democracy in Iran, as well as more long-term changes in other governments in the region.

The prevalence of radical Islamic terrorism in the Middle East is linked to the forms of government that the people there live under. Mr Bush seeks to overthrow Saddam primarily as a way to democratize the region and, therefore, weaken radical Islamic terrorism.

Were Mr Bush to tell the truth about his motives in Iraq, I daresay that there would be more opposition in the region. Exploiting a large source of oil thereby weakening the influence of the vile Saudi royal family and killing the man who tried to murder his father, among other things, are all lying on Mr Bush's cake.

NATHAN STELMACH
GIVE V

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@gatewayhalbert.ca.

The *Gateway* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, year of study of the author, and a hefty bribe of Nutty Club jelly beans to be considered for publication.

North Korea: as terrifying as it gets these days



RAYMOND
BIESINGER

Second only to the difficulty of finding an adequate Halloween costume is the challenge of deciding which trash-filled country on this planet deserves the Scariest Costume 2002 prize.

Needless to say, the front-runners are pestered about the airwaves for all to critique: will it be Iraq, with their sham-referendum on Hussein's leadership? How about America, with their Bush II? Zambia? Liberia? Qatar?

To all these candidates I say: *no*. To win, these days, takes sustained labour—gone are the days when China could have a Cultural Revolution and a famine or two take the gilded statuette home. A winner, these days, needs nuclear arms, Stalinism, Bond-esque spy games and mass starvation. One also needs gumption, stick-to-itiveness, and to have recently confessed to daring gun-bout kidnappings of Japanese youths during the hot summer of '75.

Yes, I'm talking about the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. They've been stitching their Halloween costume together since red guerrilla leader Kim Il Sung bought the fabric in 1948, and tried to strangle their southern neighbour with it from '50 to '51.

Their preparation has been astounding, in the true sense of the word. And if you want a look at how Sung's son, Kim Jong Il, is continuing to pull it off behind the scenes, you can take a peek through the Pyongyang-based Korean Central (read: only) News Agency.

Thankfully, it's broadcast by Internet in Russian, Spanish, and English, meaning that if we've got to find out

what factory Jong Il is visiting today, we can. And so we ever: every second day he's instructing cadre at Factory Complex A or Tractor Shed B.

And you can really see the rough crowd N Korea is playing with these days: it's front-page news when a floral basket arrives from Cuba, Laos, Cambodia, Syria, Egypt or Tanzania. And sometimes, what gift arrives is classified information. Like the vague one from Vietnam on 24 October. Was it a Mercedes? Food? Nike's? Only Kim and Vietnamese delegate Le Van Dung know for sure, but I bet you that it's something neat, considering that it's top secret.

They've been stitching their Halloween costume together since red guerrilla leader Kim Il Sung bought the fabric in 1948, and tried to strangle their southern neighbour with it from '50 to '51.

And they've plenty of other secrets, too. Like, everything is. Care to know about the wonderful new domestic technologies being discussed at that conference in Pyongyang on the 34th? Too bad. That's forbidden knowledge for you and every rank-and-file prole.

Yeah, it's creepy. And that's just their newspaper. Presumably, every North Korean could be laughing at it as much as we might be, but even more frightening is the prospect of them all accepting what the KCNA offers as all the news fit to print. I mean, look what we know, but they don't.

Although a few weeks ago it was all over our headlines that Korea had a pair of nuclear weapons, there's nothing

in their paper that reflects that, but plenty of references to America deciding that only a preemptive nuclear strike could defeat Kim Jong Il. I mean, how can a nation that doesn't even know that it has nuclear missiles protest their government's nuclear policy? But of course, that's a moot point, as all their dissidents are locked away.

And then, there's their recent, and avoidable, famine. You know, when their incredibly expensive nuclear program continued through the latter half of the '90s, even though something like 3 million northerners have starved to death since 1995. But as interesting and horrifying as that is, when judging costumes (we are still talking about a Halloween costume contest, right?), one has to remember that killing people is so cliché in today's it's-raining-cruise-missiles climate. So, let's just try to forget about the whole ordeal.

Damn. It's difficult. Impossible. To the point that I should feel guilt for writing this in such an entertaining way. It's shocking to think of how much horror is built into this little country, and even more shocking to take a look at a world map from five decades ago and calculate the hundreds of millions more that lived that terrible, Stalinist life. No wonder all our Eastern-European grandparents are dead or crazy.

I could defend sounding like an awfully hippant Hollywood gossip columnist while writing about this whole "despotic prison-state" thing, though, by citing how essential comedy is as a coping mechanism. Without comedy in this sad world, what would we be? As soulless as the bombs that made a lot of our planet so nasty, or as unsmiling as Jong Il's motorcade guards.

But even with that defence, I still feel bad about it. Sick, even. Congratulations, North Korea, you're the creepiest.

Don't let my braces get you down, baby



TREVOR
MILLER

As the one or two people on campus who are aware of my existence know, I have a debilitating social problem: I have braces.

And, oh no, for those of you who haven't had these throwbacks of the times when bloodletting was common and King Herod was trying to kill baby Jesus, they are not the bliss-filled teeth-jewellery they appear to be.

Let me explain to you why they have such repercussions: no one even wants to talk to me. Here's a typical conversation in my day.

Trevor: "Wow, Dr. Ghandi, I really respect all that you've shown us, sir."

Ghandi: "I wish more people would really care deeply, like you, my son."

Trevor: "Well, I don't know—" (at this point, I reveal my somewhat-pearly whites in the beginning of a self-deprecating smile)

Ghandi: "Oh, on the basis of everything I hold dear, you demon, if I wasn't so weak from my hunger strike, I'd strangle you with the towel I wear around my waist! Reel, you accursed and plagued disgrace to everyone!"

Not only that, but more importantly,

I can't eat most real food. For all you folks out there who insist on inviting me to dinner for whatever unfathomable reason, if you offer me corn on the cob one more time, I may have to introduce you to my alter ego, Mr. Unfathomable Rage. My definition of a full meal involves a bowl of soup and a straw.

But here's what gets me: "metal mouth" and "railroad tracks" may have been used when I called people that in junior high (and, man, were they ever losers, with the whole "having braces" thing going on), but in university, that really cuts deep. Especially when the people calling me that are less than half of my age. Parents, teach your children some respect, huh?

And ladies, maybe I'm not that "attractive." Maybe I don't smell like I've bathed in the last year, or I have

the charisma of a snail in heat, but, do you know what? Leave my braces out of it—they have feelings, too, you know. Don't just assume that because my mouth looks like a proadecent's that I have the relationship experience of one—assume that one because it's actually true.

Think to yourself, "I don't care if he has braces or not. I'd love to have ten million of his babies and let him call me 'Lovecakes.'" What I'm getting at here is that people like me deserve a little more respect.

Also, you should donate your money to dentalistry research. And, if you're a hot chick and you're walking down the street and you see a guy with braces, slide up to him and give him a big kiss. Maybe it'll help him get over that beating he just received at the hands of the ten-year-old next door.

Dave Alexander's TOP TEN New countries if kids could name them

- 10 Graffighanistan
- 9 Elmo Salvador
- 8 Peanut Butter and Jamaica
- 7 The I-Know-You-Are-But-What-Is-My-Name
- 6 Autobotswana
- 5 New Tendo (Formerly Game Cuba)
- 4 Republic of Harry Potter
- 3 Japanababobanabaneffibobana
- 2 United States of My Brother Billy is a Great Big Poofcoe
- 1 Candyland

And they say nothing in life is free...

Yes, our new brown bag lunch seminars are FREE, and give you food for thought on a variety of career related topics. You don't have to pre-register - just drop by CAPS 2-100 SUB - and bring your lunch. While you're there, get free cookies & career advice during Canada Career Week from November 3-9th.

Negotiating & Evaluating Job Offers

Monday, November 4, 2002, 12:05 - 12:50 p.m.

Strategies for Tapping the Hidden Job Market

Tuesday, November 5, 2002, 12:35 - 1:20 p.m.

Career Tips for First Year Students

Wednesday, November 6, 2002, 12:05 - 12:50 p.m.

Cover Letters and Other Work Search Letters

Thursday, November 7, 2002 & Tuesday, November 19, 2002 12:35 - 1:20 p.m.

Labour Market Trends & Research

Friday, November 8, 2002, 12:05 - 12:50 p.m.

Summer Work Search

Friday, November 15, 2002, 12:05 - 12:50 p.m.

Applying for Graduate School

Wednesday, November 20, 2002, 12:05 - 12:50 p.m.

Alternative Careers for Students in Education

Thursday, November 21, 2002, 12:35 - 1:20 p.m.

Watch our web site for the entire listing for next term.

www.ualberta.ca/caps



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

DEPUTY RETURNING OFFICERS SU ELECTIONS

The Deputy Returning Officers are contract positions and responsible to the Chief Returning Officer

D.R.O. (Staffing and Administration): It is the responsibility of this position to operate the elections office. Duties will include, but are not limited to, recruitment, hiring and scheduling of all staff, responding to calls, handling budgets and overseeing election headquarters.

D.R.O. (Bylaw and Forum Coordinator): It is the responsibility of this position to maintain the integrity of the election bylaws. Duties will include, but are not limited to, the coordination of all forums, aiding in the enforcement of the bylaws, assisting with the coordination of candidates and providing administrative assistance.

D.R.O. (Operations): It is the responsibility of this position to organize and administer the infrastructure and logistics of elections activities. Duties will include, but are not limited to, elections marketing, the operations of candidate campaigning, development and administration of election voting systems.

Applicants should be U of A undergraduate students and full Students' Union members.

Terms: The contracts will run from November 25, 2002 to March 25, 2003.

Remuneration: \$1000 honorarium each

Submit resume with cover letter to: Alexandra Taylor, Chief Returning Officer, Box 31 Rm 2-900 SUB, U of A Campus, T6G 2J7.

Application deadline: November 15, 2002. No later than 5pm. Only short listed candidates will be notified

For more detailed job information, or if you would like to review all Students' Union job postings, they can be found at this website: www.uofa.ca/careerinfo Only shortlisted contacted

If I would be to shout "get down," most of you would just duck, but I'd really mean that you should get down to dance, pulp-paper style. That's right, upgrade, it's time to do the newspaper go-go, the one where everyone writes for the Gateway Opinion section and has a bit of fun doing it.

Needless to say, that can be a challenge of monolithic proportion. There's typos, bad ledes (and that's not a spelling mistake), uninspired lines and only a cranky, underfed, mop-topped editor to be Charon to your crossing of the typographic river Styx.

So, can you work it, gal or guy? Drop us a line, uh?

Sincerely,
Raymond Biesinger
managing@gateway.ualberta.ca
Managing Editor, the Gateway

THE BURLAP SACK

This vicious sack beating goes out to all the nay-sayers who said that Saddam Hussein was a bad, bad man, a dictator, and a blight on the face of the Middle East. Let's just say that it's about time they gave up the anti-Iraq ghost and noted the new, democratic Iraq. On 16 October, that Gulf War hero held a referendum on his Presidency, and the results were stunning, nothing short of a declaration of that nation's dedication to freedom.

Check the headlines, infidel: the BBC online, last Tuesday, marked that "Saddam wins 100 per cent of vote."

That's right: the result was unanimous. Every Iraq of voting age who cared to cast a vote in favour of another seven years with Hussein and the Ba'th Party. And you know what? All of them did, too: the turnout was a perfect 11.4 million out of 11.4 million. Not a single spoiled ballot, either—that's how much they care!

It was quite a display of civic duty being responsibly exercised, but the news left me upset. Considering that Canada struggles with voter participation rates that hover around 50 per cent, we should be asking: "How did we get such a democratic deflection?"

Is it the officers of CSIS that frighten us away from voting booths with their daunting displays of innocent until proven guilty or our soft stance on sodomites, women, and those slovenly union activists?

Maybe. But with luck, those in power will realize that, and once again, Canada will reap the benefits of what heart can play in the big leagues of the world.

Meaning: hopefully, by this time next year we'll have some political prisoners of our own to amnesty, too.

RAYMOND BIESINGER

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is actually administered. And Mr Biesinger, obviously, is kidding, even though writing satire makes him uneasy.

Why did we build suburbs again?



ANTHONY EASTON

The suburbs of Edmonton are the closest thing to Dante's Circles of Inferno. Each of them is a chamber of horrors that makes the skin crawl and rapes the soul in their own special and diabolical way. I know this because I grew up in Fort Saskatchewan and took high school in Sherwood Park, and although I've managed to avoid St Albert except for dire circumstances, I've at least paid my dues there.

You can tell the differences between the three by their major industries:

Sherwood Park and St Albert have none, and are stuck to Edmonton like leeches of unprecedented efficiency. Fort Saskatchewan has their own, and that glorious industries they are—stuck between at least six chemical plants and a medium-security prison five minutes from a maximum-security facility, the citizens all look anxious.

It is the fact that a major explosion last summer resulted in a PR where taking the BP (the new, friendly, name for British Petroleum) corporate jet and spending a couple of days petting the populace until they returned to their usual level of compliance? Is it that no one notices they have the highest levels of cancer per capita in the province? They most likely don't notice because every couple of months Don or Sherritt gives money to minor sports or a church youth league.

So, if you don't want to live in the industry-encrusted land of prisons, are the other suburbs better?

Well, you could move to Sherwood Park, where Edmonton's executives live in mammoth mansions on minuscule lots. You've seen *Fantasia*—you know the scene with the hippos

dancing—it's something like that. This is a town of bored teenagers drinking themselves silly from Friday to Sunday.

When I went to school there, a BMW for the sixteenth birthday was not unheard of and every girl was ten pounds thin and had the aristocrat's bobbed nose. The best anecdote to sum up all that is wrong with Sherwood Park is the kid from my high school who died while trying to surf on the back of a pick-up truck. He was drunk, failed, tripped again, then finally fell off.

Now, I have less personal experience with St Albert, although I know that it is one of only two places where I have had to knock on Block Parents' doors to find my way to an address—the other way, of course, Sherwood Park. Not only do they not number their streets, it's like two copulating octopi were placed on a glass sheet, and after an hour, removed, and then St Albert was planned from the resulting pattern of tentacle marks and cephalopod fluids.

It's also the ugliest city I have been to—and I've spent time in northern Saskatchewan. The entire place disproves the maxim "money buys taste." Each building is either functional in extreme or assumes a kind of facade built to look like another time or place.

There is a salon that looks like it belongs in the 1950s, and no, it's not cool, it just smacks of tourists' desperation.

I am confused to why anyone would want to be in these places. The soul-crushing boredom cannot be healthy. There is a reason why the teenagers living in these suburban enclaves pit flee to the city the first chance they get: cities have more to do on a weekend than booting cheap beer and falling down the local steep ravines.

There are large highways into the city from St Albert, Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan—if they didn't use them, they'd just all perish.

Four's great company



RAINA DIZALL

I live with three guys. Go ahead. Raise your eyebrows. Nod your head slightly like you understand.

I might as well stop trying to explain myself now because your mind, although still humming with a thousand questions, is shut off by a justification I may have for my living arrangements. When I try to explain that I've known them for three years, since the good ol' days of Lister, you'll only hear "dorm rooms," "three guys," "one girl!"

In all honesty, what you may think about what living with three guys entails can't necessarily be blamed on your small mind or thirst for scandal.

You might imagine it mirroring the ill-fated sitcom *Two Guys and a Girl*, except with an extra dose of androgenic hormones, and instead of a pizza place, insert a greasy-haired pizza delivery man who prides himself on bringing cold pizza. Also, no med students here: only scary engineers, an Oak and—gasp—an English major.

But when I tell you one guy is practically married, the other in love with his best friend, and the third the closest thing I will ever have to an older brother, all you will hear is "three guys and one girl!"

No matter that I have a boyfriend who I absolutely adore, no matter that the house is better described as a pigsty than a porn house, no matter that these guys are truly my good friends,

you will still look at me differently than before. Never again will I be free of the Scarlet Letter, "O," as in "one of those."

In all honesty, what you may think about what living with three guys entails can't necessarily be blamed on your small mind or thirst for scandal. I guess it roots from the universal question, "Can members of the opposite sex truly be just friends?"

I would like it if others would think this possible, because I'm here, and it sure feels like we're just good friends and nothing more. I also believe that every time I get out of the shower and put on my oversized plush towel that my housemates are more concerned with getting some Maxim time on the throne than with the factual existence of my sexually clad body.

Rather than being scared that my underwear drawer is raided every time I leave the house, I trust these guys—and I also trust them with my triumphs, with my secrets, with my pain. I have learned to breathe a little easier over my crises at which my boys just laugh. To them, stress seems to be more along the lines of five-hour labs and not getting in enough overtime at work, thus starving to death. I'd like to think I'm evolving their lives as well, with what my constant feminine influence and endless supply of Cosmos.

Living with the opposite sex is definitely mind altering. The boys have lost any hope they had of me being "barefoot in the kitchen" and I am dealing with the reality that the only way I'll be able to watch *Steel Magnolias* will be to migrate into the secluded estrogen territories.

Joking aside, I consider myself lucky because I have fumbled upon the Caramilk Secret of heterosexual relationships; I have found an arena where Mars and Venus indeed inhabit one planet, and where bonds grow beyond penis envy and the libido.

This crazy thing called friendship has worked for me, and hell, with a certain amount of patience, understanding, and respect, it could work for you too.

What workshop meets your needs?

Career and Placement Services (CAPS) now offers faculty specific workshops.

Pre-register today at 2-100 SUB. While you're there, get FREE cookies & career advice during Canada Career Week from November 3-9th.

For Arts Students

Resumé Writing: Sat., Nov. 2, 2002; 9-11:30 a.m.; 4:02 SUB
Interview Skills: Sat., Nov. 2, 2002; 12:30-3 p.m.; 4:02 SUB
Career Selection: Sat., Nov. 9, 2002; 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; 2:100 SUB

For Science Students

Resumé Writing: Sat., Nov. 9, 2002; 9-11:30 a.m.; 4:02 SUB
Interview Skills: Sat., Nov. 9, 2002; 12-2:30 p.m.; 4:02 SUB
Career Selection: Sat., Nov. 16, 2002; 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; 2:100 SUB

For Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economic Students

Resumé Writing: Sat., Nov. 16, 2002; 9-11:30 a.m.; 4:02 SUB
Interview Skills: Sat., Nov. 16, 2002; 12-2:30 p.m.; 4:02 SUB

For Education Students

Creating a Teaching Application Package: Thu., Nov. 7, 2002; 4:30-7:30 p.m.; 4:02 SUB
Building a Teaching Portfolio: Wed., Nov. 13, 2002; 4:30-6:30 p.m.; 4:02 SUB
Looking for Teaching Positions: Wed., Nov. 6, 2002; 4:30-6 p.m.; 4:02 SUB
Interview Skills: Thu., Nov. 14, 2002; 4:30-7 p.m.; 4:02 SUB

Career Decision Making Strategies - For ALL students

Sun., Nov. 3, 2002; 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; 2:100 SUB

Workshops for other faculties are offered throughout the year - watch our web site for a complete schedule for the entire term and next term.

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WEEKEND SCORES

Football	Bears (1-7-1) [season complete]
25 October	Bears 7, UBC 32
Soccer	Pandas (6-5-3) [weekend: 0-2-1]
24 October	Pandas 1, Trinity Western 1
25 October	Pandas 1, UBC 7
26 October	Pandas 0, UVIC 3
Hockey	Bears (8-2-2) [weekend: 0-2-1]
24 October	Bears 0, Trinity Western 2
25 October	Bears 2, UBC 4
26 October	Bears 1, UVIC 1
Hockey	Pandas (4-0-0)
25 October	Pandas 5, Lethbridge 2
26 October	Pandas 5, Lethbridge 2
Hockey	Bears (4-1-1)
25 October	Bears 2, Lethbridge 3
26 October	Bears 6, Lethbridge 4
Volleyball	Bears (2-0)
25 October	Bears 3, Winnipeg 0
26 October	Bears 3, Winnipeg 0
Volleyball	Pandas (1-1)
25 October	Pandas 2, Manitoba 3
26 October	Pandas 3, Manitoba 0

ATHLETIC NOTES

Football

Jerry Friesen's team fell, perhaps appropriately, in their final game of the season to the UBC Thunderbirds by a tally of 32-7. Next season his squad will star and earn a playoff berth for what'll be the first time in a decade.

Runningback Nathan Connor and quarterback Blair Zahara donned the green and gold for the last time on Saturday. Zahara retires as the most successful QB in Bears history, despite never reaching the playoffs. The man also had a way with words, to this editor's delight.

Cross-Country

Hawrelak Park was the site of the Golden Bear Open on Saturday, the only home meet of the season for the cross-country team. The men finished first overall out of five competing schools, with the women finishing fourth out of four teams.

Basketball

Trix Baker's Pandas lost two of three in preseason play at Laval, Québec. Forward Karen Lodge was named the all-star of the three-day tournament. Don Horwood's Bears won their first match against UVIC in Victoria this weekend, and lost their second. Mike Melnychuk led Alberta scoring in the first game with 17 points, while Phil Sudol did the same in the second. Both teams start conference play in Vancouver on 8 November.

Hockey

The Bears (4-1-1) open home conference play at the Drake this coming weekend, while the Pandas (4-0-0) boast a two-year conference unbeaten streak after a pair of victories against Lethbridge at home this past weekend.

Soccer

Both teams were roughed up on the road this weekend. Each lost a pair and tied one. The Bears took their first losses of the season, while the Pandas were outscored 11-2. The men's Canada West championship takes place at Foote Field next weekend, while the women's CIS championship will play out there the following weekend.

X-country crew cuts up Hawrelak

Weekend meet serves as warm-up for CIS finals on 9 November in London, ON

BRENDAN PROOF
Sports Editor

The proper way to cover any sport is to stake out its territory. Normally, this entails finding a seat and scanning an arena or field. Easy stuff.

But cross-country is a different. The Golden Bears and Pandas Open presented an interesting challenge. It happened at Hawrelak park this past Saturday, and naturally the 2.5km course required a lengthy investigation.

Racers would scamper around a playground, crest a few minor hills and make their way around manmade Hawrelak lake, which features deliciously stupid artificial islands.

The lake did look pretty though, glazed with an icing-sugar snow, like a postcard. Unfortunately, signs prohibiting swimming, wading and feeding water fowl effectively strangled any sort of "winter wonderland" portrait that park curators may have been trying to create. A few athletes with "TRACK" pasted on their butts flew past,

signaling the start of the races.

For Alberta, the Pandas were off first. The women gathered in a throng near the starting area, and already a sort of order was established: the top contenders elbowed for spots right on the start line while those who wouldn't challenge for a strong finish stood a few feet off.

After the starter's pistol, the event attendees flipped back to conversations with their ilk and the race seemed to be pretty much ignored until the runners came around the loop.

The women ran the 2.5km course twice, and the men hit it four times. That made for a 5km race for the former, and a grand 10km for the latter.

"Agonizing bliss," is how Michelle Carle, the Pandas' top finisher and sixth women's finisher overall, described her run. "I ran a relatively smart race, in control of my movements." The medical student was glowing, recounting her improvement over time.

On the men's end, the Bears' Robbie Nissen finished second overall, with Dallas Raudebaugh finishing second for Alberta and sixth overall in the men's race.

"The race is an individual effort, but what gets me out on the road each week is the team aspect," said Raudebaugh. The Bears squad is

comprised of three tiers, with Raudebaugh the second-best racer in tier one. "There's a natural order that establishes itself in races, so we try to run most of it as a team, and do what we can to help one another cut."

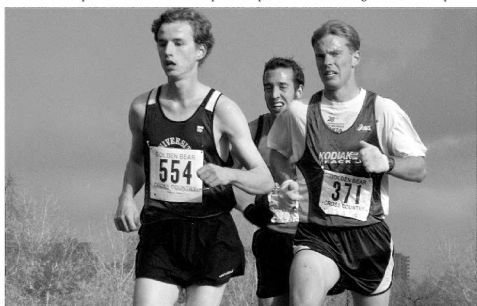
The top seven or eight racers from the Bears and Pandas are heading out to the CIS national championships, on 9 November in London, Ontario. Nissen, Raudebaugh and the other "Fitness Bitches," as they call themselves, ran at just-under-full capacity in preparation for the big show.

BEARS AND PANDAS OPEN

26 October 2002 - Hawrelak Park

Overall	Bears 10km	Time
2nd	Robbie Nissen	31:54
6th	Dallas Raudebaugh	32:56
7th	Kelsey Kalerian	33:01
8th	Brian Torrence	33:08
12th	Brian Stewart	33:25
22nd	Jan McGavock	34:20
27th	Adrian Lambick	34:39
34th	Sean Kennedy	35:04
39th	Ryan Hicks	35:56
45th	Andrew Bramm	36:27
46th	Matt Wildcat	36:41
47th	John Solice	36:55.4
49th	David Tait	36:55.9
58th	Tyler Boske	40:10
60th	Chris Ott	41:26

Overall	Pandas 5km	Time
6th	Michelle Carle	18:52
15th	Kris Baker	19:47
17th	Amy Columbia	19:52
19th	Amy Ford	19:58
22nd	Ashley McGuire	20:10
28th	Heddi Pernitski	20:24
33rd	Tara-Lee Schwell	20:50
34th	Sarah Leal	21:06
35th	Tanya Bagnall	21:11
38th	Jenny Van Kempen	21:31
41st	Christina Kowalenko	21:37
46th	Kellie Troock	22:20
48th	Becky Motuzas	22:23
51st	Bryn Gonzon	25:03



The Bears' Dallas Raudebaugh (554) ran strong enough for a sixth overall finish on Saturday.

Bears volleyballers prove dynamic in season-opening victories

ERIN LOXAM
Sports Writer

This weekend, the top-ranked volleyball Bears opened up Canada West conference play at home with a pair of wins against the seventh-ranked Winnipeg Wesmen.

Both days won occurred in three straight sets despite players going in and out of the match for Alberta.

On Friday, the Bears started off slowly, barely bagging a 25-23 win. But with the substitution of third-year setter Darren Langille in relief of captain Ryan Taylor, also a setter, Alberta rolled to 25-15 and 25-17 wins in the latter two sets. Langille was named player of the game for his efforts.

Though there is no setters' controversy in the works, the Bears' ability to switch such an influential player on the court undoubtedly works to their benefit. "Between me and Ryan, it's a different style. It's not whether it's better or worse," said Langille with a smile. "I guess it's just nice when I get to be in there and it works."

With Taylor back in the lineup on Saturday, Alberta once again dominated the game, winning 25-21, 25-19 and 25-17.

"The Wesmen had a pretty rough weekend; I don't think they played as well as they could

have," said Taylor.

"We're looking to have more games like this—going out and dominating teams. Basically, I think we have a team that can dominate any team in this league."

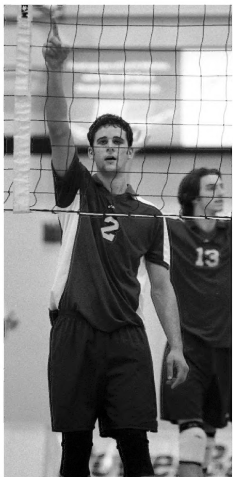
Dominating the league is a lofty goal, but one that this team might achieve. Next week the Bears are in Regina, playing an unranked Cougars team. When asked how the team would fare against Regina, Langille predicted a pair of straight-sets victories.

PANDAS

With the Manitoba Bisons in town, the Panda volleyballers wanted a quick start to their season. However, Friday's game was anything but quick.

After they lost the first set 26-24, a full-fl edged battle arose in the second with the Pandas finally taking the match 33-31. The tug of war continued as each team won a set by a 25-22 tally. In the end, Alberta fell short with a 15-10 loss in the fifth set. Their attack was led by left side Janna Konihowski and middle Jossann Mackenzie, who each had 13 kills.

Saturday night was a different story. The Pandas fought back with a vengeance, winning in straight sets (25-13, 25-19, 25-13). They were led by second-year power Tawana Wardlaw, who had 14 kills.



CALLIN' THE SHOT Captain Ryan Taylor (2) predicts dominance for his squad this season.

Where do women and hockey belong?

The Pandas hockey crew hasn't lost a conference matchup in over two years. Few seem to care, which prompts the question: what now?



BRENDAN PROCE

Sports
Commentary

Here at the sports department, we're running out of words. The Pandas hockey team won again.

They took a pair from the Lethbridge Pronghorns at the Drake this weekend, each a 5-2 victory.

"We haven't been tested yet," said winning netminder Robyn Rittmeyer.

No kidding. Lethbridge dealt Alberta its last non-win in conference play, way back on 11 November, 2000; that game ended in a 1-1 tie, at Lethbridge.

The Pandas' last conference defeat occurred precisely two years ago yesterday, 28 October 2000, on home ice. The Regina Rams won that game 2-1. What's to note about this conference-undefeated streak, two years plus a day in length, is that no one is checking out the games.

Well, not literally. There was probably a few hundred in attendance Saturday night, and they were a good crowd for their size. One could hear them erupt into madness from outside the arena when the home team scored.

There was something mocking about the air-though that followed, though. If attendance says anything, women's hockey hasn't caught an audience

yet. Which is fair, considering its inception five short years ago, for the 1997-98 season. In that time, the Pandas have brought two CIS championships home, and just last season head coach Howie Draper earned his second CIS Coach of the Year award. The accolades from Canadian Interuniversity Sport brass are pouring in. But where's the fans?

The story of successful athletics, over time, is a winning team. And though winning doesn't necessarily correlate to attendance, as we've seen here, it's a mysterious oddity when arenas or stadiums fill in spite of loss. Point is, Draper isn't doing anything wrong in fielding a winning squad.

Athletics director Kim Gordon told me earlier this season that the department is committed to winning CIS championships, explaining her belief that winning is the Canadian way.

So one can't help but wonder: is women's hockey being used as a promotional vehicle by Athletics? Just another CIS championship or Coach of the Year award to add

to the tally sheets?

To be fair, the game-play of women's hockey isn't on par with men's hockey. The biggest difference, at a glance, is speed. And if fans flock to skill regardless of gender, which they seem to, the Pandas hockey team will be hard-pressed to surpass the Bears in attendance anytime soon.

And having fewer fans translates into less revenue. But the minds at the top must have had a good reason or two to implement the team in the first place; losing money isn't a good reason, and the Pandas hockey team doesn't make much of it, if any.

So what then? For political reasons, proof that the University supports gender equality in sports? Maybe.

Thing is, folks have known from the start that a Pandas hockey team wouldn't compete with the Bears, neither skill-wise nor attendance-wise—and one has to ask if equality is really shown by fielding a team that doesn't

HAYLEY WICKENHEISER AND WOMEN'S HOCKEY

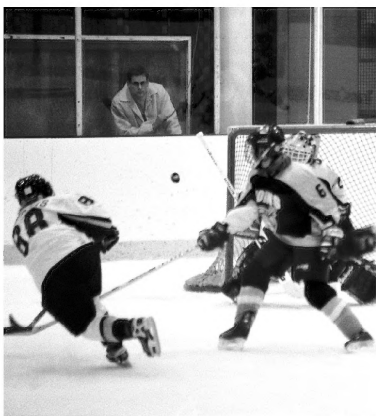
Volumes were spoken recently about women's hockey in international news. Hayley Wickenheiser, the best female hockey player alive, was denied a spot on the Merano Eagles of the Italian Ice Hockey Federation by its governing body, after working out a contract with the club. She would have been paid between \$300,000 and \$500,000 CDN tax-free to play for the men's club, according to an article in the 22 October *Globe and Mail*. She currently plays, unpaid, for the Edmonton Chimios.

If you've never heard Italy mentioned in talks of international hockey, you're not alone.

You see, Italy isn't very good. What's more, it's rumoured that Wickenheiser's attempt to sign with the men's club as a publicity stunt.

So the best female hockey player in the world can't get a spot with an Italian hockey club. Publicity stunt indeed.

wouldn't compete with the Bears, neither skill-wise nor attendance-wise—and one has to ask if equality is really shown by fielding a team that doesn't



JAMES JOHNSON
LONELY RINK An attendant watches Danielle Bourgeois (88) unleash a bullet past Pronghorn defender Lindsay Pasemko (6) in Friday's 5-2 Alberta win.

compete well with its male counterpart. To me, that's anything but equality.

So my bet's on Gordon's winning train. Last season, the hockey Pandas accounted for 100 per cent of the U of A's CIS Player of the Year awards (forward Lori Shupak), one fifth of the University's CIS championships, and one seventh of its Coach of the Year titles. Coach Draper also won CIS Coach of the Year in 1999-2000 after leading the Pandas to a CIS title that year.

All things considered, it isn't so heinous if the Athletics braintrust is using the women's hockey program solely to pad its own PR portfolio. Certainly, worse things have been done.

But what about the personalities on the team? Howie Draper has a work ethic that would make anyone jealous. The team members grind and shout with an enthusiasm seldom seen at any level. Even if it doesn't make for the finest show on ice, they're pouring themselves into their effort.

That said, an air-horn shouldn't make one feel uncomfortable. But when it's tough to shake the idea that the next goal going towards the next win might be pushing nothing more than a department's portfolio, it's hard to do anything but gobble one giant pretzel in preparation for a dizzy sojourn to the volleyball match next door.



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1) Faculty Undergraduate Teaching Awards

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Nominations.....One from each department

Number of Awards.....Up to three, normally one from each division of the Faculty

Deadline.....15 January 2003

2) Sessional Instructor Teaching Awards

Eligibility.....Instructors must have a minimum of nine course weights of teaching experience of which the most recent course was taught no earlier than the academic year preceding the one in which the nomination is made.

Nominations.....One from each department

Number of Awards.....Granted to the three most deserving nominees in the Faculty taken as a whole

Deadline.....7 February 2003

3) Graduate Student Teaching Awards

Eligibility.....Teaching assistants or advanced graduate students from the current or previous academic year who have, or had, responsibility for teaching a course, or section, or lab for a minimum of two academic (four month) terms

Nominations.....Two from each department

Number of Awards.....Up to nine

Deadline.....7 February 2003

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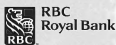
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WOW

There were tons of events held during the days and into the evenings from September 4th to September 7th for the Week of Welcome (WOW). People honed their super hero skills at Quad activities while others started their days off right with meals fit for a superhero at the Pancake Breakfasts. While some students stayed up late to watch X-Men and Spiderman at the Sleeping Bag Drive-In, others chilled to the musical musings of the band Veal at the Power Plant. The beer gardens in Quad hosted a multitude of great local bands, the week wrapped up with an exciting night at the Agricom with Retrograde, Rake, Shocore, and arguably the greatest band of all time, Theory of a Deadman.

Maybe they weren't lacto-vegetarians, but they did help a lot during WOW. An immense thank you must be sent out to all the staff and volunteers who gave their summer to make sure I didn't screw up. Specifically, Steve Derpack, Mariel Dagot, Christine Dmytryshyn, Juliana du Pree, Linda Hayes, Dan Costigan, Christy Wohland, Christine Rogerson, and the amazing WOW Planning Committee, I am indebted to all of you.

In all honesty, much thanks goes out to all the sponsors whose donations facilitated the myriad events held. Without the generous help of our sponsors, none of this could have happened.

Kail Ross
VP Student Life



BAM! POW! WOW! What a week!

Let me take you back to WOW. Remember coming out of SUB with a huge armload of new textbooks? You saw colorful "BAM!" and "POW!" signs standing high above the crowd. As you walked towards CAB, the sea of student club tables beckoned, but the games and prizes that were being given away on the other side of QUAD distracted you more. After crawling through the web-like ropes course, you won the Kokanee hoodie of your dreams. Then you heard it- the rhythms of a beer gardens band. You didn't know who they were, or where they came from, but you just couldn't help yourself any longer. The next thing you knew, you were sitting in the beer gardens with a beverage in one hand, a WOW dance ticket in the other, talking to friends you haven't seen since finals last semester, and enjoying the band on the beer gardens stage.

That's what WOW was all about folks- enjoying your first week here at the U of A.

I'd like to thank the WOW Coordinators. These super volunteers planned WOW for 4 months and ran every event flawlessly during WOW- they also kept me sane during the week! I don't know what I would have done without you, and thank you from the bottom of my heart: Laura Roberts, James Knoll, Lisa Clyburn, Alexis Pepin, Michelle Vigeant, Kimmy Williams, Alex Abboud, Lerina Koonhof, Nandini Somayaji, Lita McDonald, Meisha Kolbuc, Travis Peter, Jadene Mah, Aarti Kumar, Carla Webb, Marilyn Kontz, Samuel Jenkins, Mary Belcourt, Matt Good, and Matt Sadler.

Thank you as well to the army of yellow-shirted WOW volunteers who helped with everything from WOW Dance decorating to the Taste of the U. You rock my world!

Finally, thank you to everyone who participated in WOW. I hope you had a great time!

Courtesy of your friendly neighborhood
Student Activities Coordinator
Mariel Dagot

Passport prize winners:

Grand Prize (JVC Stereo)- Daniel Proulx
Second Prize (Solomon Snowboard)- Nick Leung
Third Prize (Kokanee backpack)- Aaron Coley

Taste of the U winners: (backpacks)

Linda Bul
Jenny Samuel
Michael Tenove

Taste of the U participating restaurants:

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WEEKEND
HANGOVER**Whatbox CD Release Party**

with Cypher and Resonance
Fox & Hounds
Saturday, 26 October

The dingy-basement-like comfort of the Fox & Hounds was in danger of collapsing last Saturday night as Whatbox slapped a sparse but loyal crowd silly with tunes from their sparky new disc, *Pre-recorded Dreamscapes*.

Whatbox employ solid songwriting, good technique, and despite limited sound mixing, put on a high-energy show. They're not afraid of trying new things, yet remain true to the influence that Edmonton's hard-edge has on many local bands.

And if that doesn't sell you, then perhaps a temporarily possessed lead singer Matt Hanayk would have. Too bad you missed it. — John Whelan

Emm Gryner

with Andy Stochansky
Friday, 25 October
Siderack Café

You would have thought you were sitting in on story hour at the public library from the audience reaction at Siderack Café on Friday night. A couple of Canada's hottest musical talents, Andy Stochansky and Emm Gryner, took to the stage and no one was willing to dance about it.

Hailed as a pop rocker, Andy Stochansky opened and formed new fans with his catchy, layered rock tunes. The crowd was really buying into the music and ready for more when Emm Gryner appeared.

The headline act, however, was anti-climactic and too full of misery, following the spirited Stochansky. — Sarah "Hater" Hoyle



SIDETRACKED Stochansky "pianos it up."

The Molestics

with the Brewtals, Mad Bomber Society,
the Wednesday Night Heroes, the James T Kirks,
and the Krazy 8's
New City/Suburbs
Friday, 25 October

The kids were skanking and the bands were jamming Friday night as popular downtown goth-spot, Suburbs, threw one of its last bashes in its current building. A saturated ska bill drew a capacity crowd to the bar's farewell show.

With the overindulgence of onstage drinking, hooligan calling, and friendly slam-dancing the vibe stayed at a peak through the lengthy gig.

From the twangy crooning of the Molestics, to the double-tempoed Italian rock of the Mad Bombers, the bands could do nothing but please the fashionable crowd. — Heather Adler

Grand Theft Auto: Vice City

Rockstar Games
Ships Tuesday, 29 October

A follow-up to the wildly successful *Grand Theft Auto 3*, Vice City boasts new weapons, new vehicles, and a huge new city for gamers to explore.

Killing, driving, killing, killing, and shooting are just some of the things that will make this game great.

The '80s are back, *Grand Theft Auto*-style. — Adam Rosenhart

Arts & Entertainment Staff

SOSA plans a scream of a Halloween party

SOSA—Artists Under the Stairs

PITS Gallery (10154 103 Street)
Thursday, 31 October at 7pm

ADAM ROZENHART
Entertainment Editor

The Society of Student Artists (SOSA) is painting the town orange and black this weekend: SOSA's throwing a Halloween bash complete with a haunted house.

"The Halloween event is a big bash/fundraiser," notes Stacey Martz, executive member of SOSA. "There's [going to be] a DJ and dancing," she adds.

SOSA is an emerging artist group with members from all over Edmonton. "[It's] a chance for artists to come together and discuss things and deal with things [they] might not get during class, which would be marketing and meeting other artists," says Martz.

While the society is limited to mostly U of A students, SOSA is working to get other organizations involved. "Right now, we're just in Edmonton; mainly U of A is where we're based," says Martz. "But we're trying to get Grant MacEwan more involved."

SOSA conducts monthly workshops as well as socials. "[It] brings artists together and gives them a chance to get together and communicate about things that are important to them," says Martz.

"The one thing with school is that you're learning about art and making art, but you don't really know what to do once you're done school. You're kind of just thrown in there," she says. "We want to help artists and give them a branch from where to go from graduation to being out in the real world."

And part of extending that branch means getting members together at parties, like the Halloween bash. The bash will feature a haunted house, with a theme of what artists find scary. "Part of [what artists find scary] is applying for grants. So we have a little artists' maze through the grant commission."



BOO! "Zombie/Saint," by Katarah Veda, one of SOSA's burgeoning artists.

The bash will also feature scary art, as well as a section for live art. "We have paper up on the walls for people to come in and do art right while they're there," says Martz. "It's setup with black lighting so everything's going to be glowing."

Free scary food and cheap drinks will also mark the occasion. The *Artists Under the Stairs* at the Pie in the Sky (PITS) Gallery on Thursday is a terrific way for you to find out what student artists are getting their ghoulish hands into.

Ghost Ship 'drifts rudderless' in a sea of film

Ghost Ship

Directed by Steve Beck
Starring Julianna Margulies, Gabriel Byrne,
and Isaiah Washington
Now playing

ADAM HOUSTON
Arts & Entertainment Writer

You'd think that with all those superstitious old salts swapping grizzly tales in seedy wharf-side pubs, sailors would be a little less anxious to clamber aboard mysterious ships that don't appear on radar screens, especially when accompanied by a crew of swarthy character actors and tired Hollywood has-beens. Still, I suppose most prospective boarding parties at least have the excuse that the title of the movie didn't give them any hints about what to expect.

Deep Rising may be my guiltiest pleasure of 1998, but conjured images not so much of leviathan sea-beasts as vaguely menacing pizza crust. And I was in the loved-it minority regarding *Event Horizon*, but that title (it's the edge of a black hole, or something equally likely to be a Daily Double on Jeopardy!) doesn't mean anything to anyone other than a select group of astronomy majors, and we all know they don't get out to the movies very often.

But here we've got a pretty straightforward concept, distilled down to two words: "ghost" and "ship." Not much margin for error there. At best, one could hope that it might refer to friendly, Casper-style apparitions, but following your inevitably gory demise, that excuse starts to look pretty flimsy.

Speaking of flimsy excuses, let's talk about director Steve Beck. I've heard of method acting, but here he breaks new ground in method directing.



HELLO, NURSE? Julianna Margulies plays the heroine in *Ghost Ship*.

Ghost Ship drifts rudderless in a sea of ectoplasm.

Sure, he knows his way around a gruesome setpiece or two (exactly two, actually: the taut steel cable incident two minutes in, and a rather nasty boathook toward the end), but flair for the macabre doesn't make a film. It sure didn't make Beck's only previous credit, *Thirteen Ghosts*, which likewise had cool sets, ghoulish effects, and very little else. And nothing excuses having the de rigueur creepy British child introduce a contrived expository flashback by saying, "I have something I want to show you," but then editing out the part where she explains, "and I've decided to set it to a throbbing techno beat."

As haunted ship movies go, this is campy, predictable fare only a notch better than Luke Perry's *TBS* Supernatural original movie *The Triangle*, and that's only (and I stress only) because Isaiah Washington doesn't need to do all his acting with his sideburns.

Ghosts are fun. So are ships, especially the evil ones. One might imagine, then, that *Ghost Ship* would epitomize two great tastes that taste great together. Sadly, this is not the case, and these vessel foundlers, as ships tend to do when things get this shallow. She's adrift somewhere near the local multiplex; if you run across her, you'd best set a course for less troubled waters.

Marijuana travelogue examines pot attitudes across the globe



Pot Planet
by Brian Preston
Grove Press
286 pages

KELLY FITZGIBBON
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The blurb on the back of Brian Preston's *Pot Planet* carries the mission statement of going "... on a global ganja safari to explore strange new cannabis cultures, to seek out growers, activists, and other reefer revolutionaries ... and to boldly get baked with each of them."

Thus I began the book, suspicious of the credibility of the subject and author. To disappoint tokers everywhere, I must assert that *Pot Planet* is not a *Loneley Planet* guide to the five-star hash bars and reefer farms across the globe. Rather, this book is a surprisingly lucid and engrossing account of one man's mission to engage with different cultures and discover how alike they are in their love of the stupendously stinky weed.

Preston, a Vancouverite, decided a few years back to begin his worldwide trek in the hopes of discovering what it is about marijuana that has made it a cross-cultural phenomenon. From the slums of Bangkok to the hate grass culture of Amsterdam, from the hemp farms of BC to the hippie communes of outback Australia, Preston discovers that weed's significance varies in each culture as much as religion and politics.

Whether hobnobbing with top growers at the Cannabis Cup or burning blunts from eight-year-old slum kids in Nepal, Preston's passion is tangible. He is well-versed in the ways of ganja and passes on that knowledge to his readers.

Thousands of varieties are inhaled and judged, while the politics of legalization and the social implications of growing in Third World versus First World nations are debated. A rich tapestry of cultures woven around pot

is described in vivid, hallucination-inducing colours. The threads vary from the humorously strange (Britain's Church of the Sacred Herb, anyone?) to the painful (young people forced to starve their families because pot is a more lucrative crop than food).

This book is a surprisingly lucid and engrossing account of one man's mission to engage with different cultures and discover how alike they are in their love of the stupendously stinky weed.

Though his anecdotes of getting high become rather repetitive, Preston manages to keep the reader's interest through his sweeping portrait of a world influenced by Mary Jane and his dedication to showing the different sides and effects of the great pot debate.

In all, a much better read than anticipated, and worth a look to any curious reader. A word of warning, though: if you find yourself getting hungry halfway through the book, it's not your imagination, just the munchies.

Concert pianist vows newly dateless reviewer

Boris Kononov in Concert
Convocation Hall, U of A
Saturday, 26 October, 2002

CONNOR CURSON
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Damn you Boris Kononov! Damn you to the depths of Siberia!

Why the cursing? Well, Saturday night brought my latest assignment: a recital with Russian pianist Boris Kononov. Man, I could think of better ways to spend a Saturday night.

I figured I'd make the best of it. With great charm and promised foot rubs, I convinced the hottest guy on campus to come join me. I'm a multitasker by nature: I figured we could sit in the back row and make-out while I listened to Kononov's interpretations of Chopin and Liszt.

So there I was, tasting the sweet nectar of feminine saliva, oblivious to ogling old fogies when, wham! The opening notes of Chopin's Scherzo #2 hit like atomic shockwaves. My uber-model sank old, loosely from my arms and sank, still ecstasy, into the folds of her seat while I sprang to the edge of my own.

Upon the stage a magician had appeared—the tails of his tux thrown across the back of his seat, his eyes closed in concentration as his hands roamed the machine in front of him, seemingly casting mystical incantations that made an odd black box ring. My gorgeous companion was erased from my mind and in her place I remembered that this odd box was a piano and this magician was Kononov.

Not being a classical music critic, I did not recognize many of the pieces Kononov played, nor the personal interpretation he spun upon them. But the music was beautiful and watching Kononov perform was fascinating.

The way he interacted with the piano was astonishing. At times his hands pulling explosive sound from

the keys as a Spanish Inquisition torturer pulls bowels from his victims. At others, caressing the ivories like dew caresses rose petals. Then he would crouch low over the keys becoming a thief trying to steal musical treasure from the piano. The dynamics of his playing were unbelievable.

Kononov held the audience captive. Heads unwittingly bounced to the playfulness of Chopin's Nocturne in F Major. Aspiring maestros tapped on invisible keys to the quick, delicate, and stunning notes of Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody #2. His interpretation of Liszt's popular Nocturne #3 brought shouts of "bravo." My experience with classical piano was slim, but I was quickly drawn into the stunning array of sounds that seduced the ear and enslaved the listener.

At times his hands pulling explosive sound from the keys as a Spanish Inquisition torturer pulls bowels from his victims. At others, caressing the ivories like dew caresses rose petals.

To further enhance the fascination of the night, Boris had what appeared to be an ex-KGB bodyguard. I thought, "That's odd for a pianist." But after seeing the ladies swooning for Kononov, I could see there could be a problem with jealous husbands.

After three encores, the zipping-up of jackets pulled me from my trance. Beside me the only remnant of my female companion was the program, ripped to tiny pieces, littering an empty seat. Looked like another lonely night for me, courtesy of a Russian's musical magic. Damn you Boris Kononov!



NUN OF THAT Members of Sisters cast on-stage, all decked out for their show, which premieres on Thursday.

New generation of theatre at Timms

Sisters

Directed by Kim McCaw
Sherry Cheryl Olson, Erik Hildebrand,
Adrienne Dalman, Lesley Galbecka,
Marcia Owen, and Scott Olynek
Thursday, 31 October
to Saturday, 9 November

PHILIP A. JAGGER
Arts & Entertainment Writer

How do we define what a sister is?

We first think of a nun or blood relation. However, in the case of the BFA acting program, a sister or brother is someone with whom you have worked closely for three years, watching them literally grow up as an actor. And when the play you are about to present is about sisters and growing up in a residential school, the line between character and actor becomes blurred.

The latest episode in the life of the Studio Theatre family features the play *Sisters* by Wendy Lill, a well-known Canadian playwright, journal-

ist and politician. Lill is the Member of Parliament for Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, the first practicing artist ever elected to the House of Commons.

Sisters is the story of Mary, a nun who once taught at a Native residential school. When she receives a letter from a former student, she realizes the pain and suffering she caused during her years there.

As Mary struggles with this discovery, we are reminded that even the best of intentions can be disastrous in the end.

There are intentions that drive people to a positive end, though. The BFA students' choice to take the risk and audition for the program will shape them to have an important role and voice in the acting community, not only in the university but also the world itself. And of course, the program gives the students the tools to sharpen their craft.

Like the character Mary, the students of the BFA program are examining what motivates them not just as

actors, but as individuals. According to the students, the direction of Kim McCaw has made them more aware of what it means to have a collective voice in the acting process. They have come of age through the sheer joy of doing what excites and inspires them. Their faces light up when describing the skills they have learned in classes, like clowning, physical theatre, music, dancing and stage combat, and the idea of training to do what they love bubbles out in their enthusiasm.

The role of family is not only defined by being an actor in the BFA program: from training to being a stage technician, to stage management and directing, all the shows by Studio Theatre are created by a wide range of relatives in the Studio Theatre family.

So go grab a family member and see *Sisters*. It's the chance to hear a vital voice that questions our role politically in Canada. And secondly, it's a chance to see the work of the new generation of Canadian theatre, before they leave and create families of their own.

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Do Make Say Think's Justin Small plays to the crowd Friday at the Rev.

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<http://nerfherder.net/cgi-bin/webilbs.pl>

ADAM ROZENHART
Entertainment Editor

Many people out there listen to punk rock, as proven by the slew of terrible bands that all sound the same, and sing about how metal they used to be and how punk rock they are now.

Not you, though. You're the epitome of punk rock.

CULTURA OBSCURA



Partyhose Dryer

ALEX KONYE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

You wore the pants, the shirts, and the shoes before they were cool. You had your ska phase, you had your Punk-o-rama phase, and you've even been through your emo phase.

Now you want to start a band to show the world what punk rock is all about. Problem is, you couldn't write a song to save your life. Well, even though you think you're more punk rock than they are, the boys from Nerf Herder want to help you.

Borrowing from the genius of Mad Libs, Nerf Herder has a song already written for you. All you need to do is fill in the blanks to personalize it. Here's an example of the song I wrote, titled "Here Comes Skip," a song about the Gateway's Editor-in-Chief.

bling bling bling bling bling bling bling bling

Here Comes Skip with a big bum

Down Granville street eating a ham sandwich

Working at HMV, where they sell gonads

Party sat on Skip's green middle finger

And the rest is history...

Here comes Skip

Here comes Skip

bling bling bling bling bling bling bling bling

Punk rock has never been so easy! Go to it, rock stars. And remember: I'm more punk than you.

Every date I've ever managed to secure was delayed by the bane of punctual men everywhere: sopping wet hosey.

Ancient Egypt, Rome, Asian dynasties, Aztec/Mayan civilizations all fell despite what you've heard, because of pleural bonding associated with hose on skin. The simple solution: ktlxlxlchtl, Caesar, Tut and company overlooked it is a partyhose dryer.

I buy this dryer. I rationalize—say, it's for the good of efficiency and gentlemanly conduct. Hah! I haven't had a single date since that ill-fated purchase. So, what do you do with a gold metal outline of a woman's leg that heats up?

I'm a multi-tasker and "The Leg" is just another multi-tool. I remember the mind races. It would make an excellent conversation piece. If I had someone to converse with, I've taken to toasting entire loaves of bread at once to make bread crumbs, or Melba. It can also serve as a giant lock de-icer for Superman's fortress of solitude, or a heater for Bhutanese refugees. The possibilities are endless.

Punch-Drunk Love is 'cinematic caviar'

Punch-Drunk Love
Directed by PT Anderson
Starring Adam Sandler
and Emily Watson
Now Playing

DANIEL KASZOR
Circulation Manager

Before *Punch-Drunk Love* started, a trailer played for a new J Lo movie, *Maid in Manhattan*. The premise of the Lopez star vehicle is that she's a maid in a ritzy New York hotel, puts on a dress belonging to one of the hotel guests, and is mistaken for a ritzy socialite by a dashing senatorial hopeful played by Ralph Fiennes.

From the trailer, it seemed to be the kind of second-rate garbage that has been passing for romantic comedy recently. The girl behind me enthusiastically pledged that she was going to see *Maid in Manhattan*. The girl behind me also hated *Punch-Drunk Love*.

Throughout his career, Adam Sandler has made a host of movies, all of which star the same character: a moderately stupid young male who has good intentions at heart and has problems controlling his rage. Some of these movies have worked; some of them have been moderately funny; most of them have been terrible; none of them have been the least bit intelligent.

Punch-Drunk Love stars Adam Sandler playing the same under-intelligent young man with good intentions at heart and problems controlling his rage. However, where Sandler's previous movies have been morose and occasionally funny romps through stupidity, *Punch-Drunk Love* is on a completely different cinematic plane and



SHOPPING FOR LOVE Luis Guzmán and Adam Sandler in *Punch-Drunk Love*.

is weirder, and more challenging than almost all mainstream movies coming to theatres in the foreseeable future.

The film revolves around Barry Egan (Sandler) who runs a small-time business in his small-time life. His relationship with his seven sisters has warped his ability to have a normal reaction to any social situation. His life is empty and he is desperately in need of something to fill it up. He finds Lena (Emily Watson), who acts as his personal angel. Summing the movie up by merely stating its story is inadequate, however. There is more going on in *Punch-Drunk Love* than just a narrative.

Director PT Anderson (*Boogie Nights*, *Magnolia*) obviously had a vision for this film. Every moment is precisely focused in both vision and tone. Sandler plays his tried and true character in ways it has never been played before,

which is a testament to both Sandler and to the steady hand of Anderson in the director's chair. When Sandler unleashed his rage in *The Waterboy*, it allowed him to gain cartoonish notoriety. When Sandler unleashed his rage in *Punch-Drunk Love*, he bruised his knuckles on the wall.

The cinematography is also interesting, different, and pitch perfect. Cinematographer Robert Elswit has collaborated with Anderson in all of his films since 1996's *Hard Eight* and creates a visual ambience that is unique.

A final word of warning before seeing *Punch-Drunk Love*: the film is better than a regular Sandler movie in the same way that caviar is better than pork rinds; you may need a refined palate to enjoy the caviar. However, cinematic caviar is so rare, it would be a shame to pass it up.

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The History of Halloween

For most of us, Halloween has become a debauchery-laden holiday that excuses us from any repercussions that would ordinarily arise from wearing pink fishnet stockings and stealing candy from sticky-fingered children. However, the roots of this hyperactive holiday actually stretch back to ancient Celtic festivals whose legends have survived to this day.

For most of us, Halloween has become a debauchery-laden holiday that excuses us from any repercussions that would ordinarily arise from wearing pink fishnet stockings and stealing candy from sticky-fingered children. However, the roots of this hyperactive holiday actually stretch back to ancient Celtic festivals whose legends have survived to this day.

Two thousand years ago, the festival of Samhain (meaning summer's end) was celebrated as the Celtic New Year in the area that is roughly present day the United Kingdom, Ireland and France. The first of November for this civilization represented the beginning of the winter season, and the Celts believed the night before the New Year opened the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead. Winter for them was associated with cold and hard times, resulting in many human deaths, and 31 October was the date when they anticipated the return of ghosts who would come to cause mischief or damage crops. These spirits were not regarded as evil, but, as very dangerous, difficult to understand, and menacing.

Druids, the Celtic priests, would use this time to prophesize about the upcoming year as the presence of the demons allowed for a window into things beyond the natural world. Food and wine would be placed on the doorsteps of residents who had lost relatives in the previous years to appease the roaming spirits. It is thought this was the primitive beginning of the trick-or-treating custom. Intricate costumes and huge sacred bonfires were used in the fortune-seeking ceremonies, and so began the legends of the last day of October.

The druids' beliefs were largely spoken, and very little of their teachings appear in written form. This fact makes the actual tracking of Halloween's beginnings difficult and even more shrouded in mystery than most ancient beliefs. Much of what is known about them was learned through the Romans, who were enemies at the time. Many sources claim the Druids also partook in violent sacrifices, and conducted demonic rites; however, these allegations were never proven to be true. In fact, most of the overtly sadistic folklore behind Halloween is attributed to super-sensationalism and modern-day misinterpretation based on small truths.

Later, the influence of both Christianity and modern traditions came to blend with those of the Celts. Peralta was a Roman holiday in late fall which revered the

passing of the dead which came to be part of the 31 October heritage.

All Saints' Day was declared in 835 as a time to honour saints who were brought into being and was an attempt to replace festivals for the dead with more acceptable practices. In England, the peasants would beg for sweets known as "soul cakes" in return for their past with the wealthy to pray for their deceased loved ones. Children would also partake in "going a-souling" when they begged for food, ale, and money from neighbouring dwellings.

The Celts believed the night before the New Year opened the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead.

The word Halloween later evolved from the Middle English word Allhallowesse, which translates to All Saints' Day. The original ideas of reverence for the dead were never really relinquished, however, nor was the tradition of dressing in costumes, which only grew more pronounced as parades and masquerades grew popular across Europe. The old notions of ghosts falling to Earth on Halloween remained persistent in people's minds and the practice of dressing as devils, saints, and animals was used as a way for people to travel the streets after dark so spirits would confuse them for fellow demons.

Many present day traditions, such as jack-o'-lanterns and bobbing for apples, also have roots in old Irish folk myth of varying credibility. One such tale speaks of a drunkard named Jack who was left to travel the face of the earth looking for a place to rest his soul. The anecdote explains how he tricked the Devil into following him up a tree where Jack quickly carved a cross into the



Ween

Fright-Night Facts

Black cats, diabetes, fortune-telling, decapitated chickens, and so much more!

trunk and trapped the Devil until he promised to never take his soul. After Jack died, he was refused into heaven because of his sinful life, but because the oath forbade the Devil from taking him, he did not go to hell either. In rage, the devil threw a live coal from the fires of hell at Jack, which he put in a turnip he was eating to use as a lantern to guide his way. This haunted soul is said to be the beginning of jack-o'-lanterns and the face carved in it represents the damned soul of Jack. In Europe, jack-o'-lanterns are still carved from large turnips, with their pumpkin cousins only being remnants of the New World.

You never know if that spider looking back at you on devil's night is really the soul of a loved one checking in on you for just one evening.

Bobbing for apples is rumoured to stem from the Celtic worship of Pomona, the goddess of harvest, who considered apples to be sacred fruit. During the Samhain celebration, apples were used as offerings to spirits and also in games of diversion, which eventually found its way into modern tradition.

As immigrants came to settle around the world, the tradition of Halloween spread. It is now celebrated around the globe under a diverse set of traditions.

All Souls day is a three-day celebration to honour the dead in Mexico, Latin America, and Spain. Candy, photographs, food, flowers, and fresh cleansing water for the spirits are often left by altars built for the deceased so they can come and feast on Halloween. It is also a time when relatives decorate the graveyards and light incense to help their lost loved ones find their way home.

"Yue Lan," or festival of the hungry ghosts, is Hong Kong's equivalent to Halloween. During this celebration, some people burn pictures of fruit or money to bring comfort to the spirits roaming the world during this one day.

Belgians light candles in memory of dead relatives on fright-night to commemorate their dead relatives, while Czechoslovakians place chairs around the fire for each living family member, and one for each family member's spirit.

Halloween has truly become an international holiday. The traditions, the superstitions and the unexplainable date back thousands of years to civilizations most of us will never understand. As we continue the perpetual re-telling of urban legends and mystery-shrouded tails of the Old World, the irresistible lure of such a mystic night will only grow.

You may be able to predict to perfection the events of your day that are likely to transpire 364 days of the year, but on All Hallow's Eve there's always a chance for the unfamiliar to have its way with you. After all, no ghost story is without its seed of truth, and you never know if that spider looking back at you on devil's night is really the soul of a loved one checking in on you for just one evening.

Words Heather Adler
Photos Angela Schenstead



The traditional Halloween icon of the black cat was once believed to be the "familiar" of witches who served to protect them from negative energy.

One quarter of annual candy sales is made between 15 September and 10 November, making Halloween the largest grossing holiday for diabetes-causing goodies. At an estimated \$1.93 billion (US), it grosses more than Valentines, Christmas, and Easter.

During the eighteenth century, a popular Halloween meal consisted of "callicannon" made from mashed potatoes, parsnips, and chopped onions with a ring buried in the casserole. Superstition of the day stated that the person who found the ring would receive good luck, or be married, in the upcoming year.

It was thought a woman could discover the identity of her future husband on Halloween night by sitting before a mirror at midnight, and eating an apple while brushing her hair. Supposedly the image of her soul mate would appear in the glass.

The extremely rare hereditary blood disease Porphyria is thought to have been the basis after which myths of vampires developed. Victims of this disorder cannot produce heme, a vital component of red blood. Symptoms include extreme sensitivity to sunlight, excessive hair growth, sores and scars that don't heal properly, tightening of skin around lips and gums (causing incisors to appear more prominent), and aversion to garlic, as it stimulates the production of heme.

Ancient Greeks and Romans would place coins over the eyes of the newly deceased as payment for the ferry boatman Charon, who was believed to cross people over the River Styx to the netherworld.

A "dumb supper" is the custom of setting extra places at a dinner table, for the dead, and eating the meal in silence, in honour of those who can no longer speak.

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, Gerry Checkon of Altoona, Pennsylvania grew the largest pumpkin ever. It weighed in at a terrifying 1131 pounds. Also, this pop-culture giant-waste-o'-time states the longest time for a chicken to survive after decapitation is a whopping 18 months. This occurred in March 1945.



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JP So, super special pal. What week! And it's only Monday! Finally, I can't wait until the weekend. I got a lot of work still, but I'm trying to get it all done so I have less to worry about in the future. I know, I know. You think it won't get better, but hey, let's be optimistic. It won't be this way forever. Next year's gonna be fun. We'll be worry-free and care-free! Zowie! And then we can run away across the Atlantic. Until then, both our backs hurt so we gotta make an exchange. Yep. From your pal \$20. PS Talk to you soon! xoxo
Less than two months until Christmas! Yay! I can taste the shortbread already! -ain..

HAPPY BOB KNOWS

Campus events and more...

CaPS presents a Free Career Forum: Information Careers in the New Economy on Monday, 4 November, 2002 from 3 to 5pm in Rutherford South 3-01. Learn more about this dynamic field & network with guest speakers afterwards! CaPS also presents a Math/Statistics Career Forum on Tuesday, 5 November, 2002 from 3:30 to 5:30pm in CAB 239 and a Biological Sciences Career Forum on Wednesday, 6 November, 2002 from 5 to 7pm in BioSci CW-110. These two Career Forums are \$3 for admission when you pre-register at CaPS (2-100 SUB). For more information, please visit CaPS in 2-100 SUB, or contact by phone at 492-4291.

The U of A Students' Union presents Tuition Forum on Wednesday, 30 August, 2002 at 2:30pm in Room 6-06 SUB. Your Students' Union is currently formulating their tuition policy; this is your chance to let them know what you want. Will you be happy with another increase, or would you rather see a tuition freeze or even a rollback? Join us at this forum and let your voice be heard! For more information, please contact Mike Hudema at 492-4236.

The U of A Habitat for Humanity group presents a pumpkin carving contest for charity. Come by SUB on Tuesday, and vote for your favourite carved pumpkin by making a donation to Habitat for Humanity.

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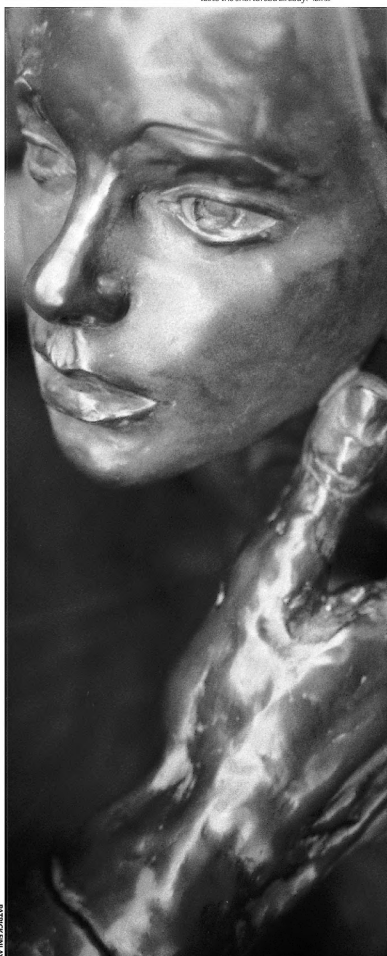
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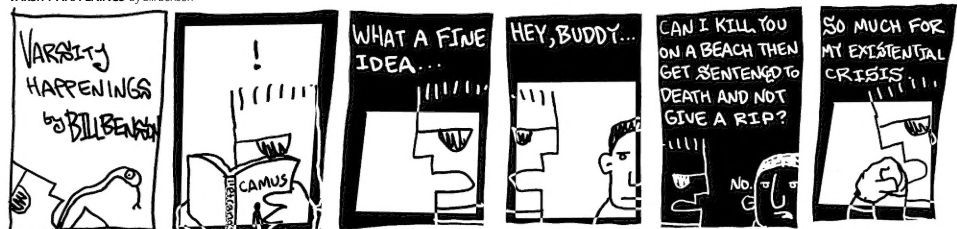
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